

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

TITLE

The Office Action indicated that “[t]he title of the invention is not descriptive.” Office Action at ¶ 2. Further, the Office Action indicated that “[a] new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.” Office Action at ¶ 2. In a voice mail message dated June 8, 2000, Examiner Butler indicated that the title “Method and Apparatus for Allowing Communication Between a Host Computer and at least Two Storage Devices over a Single Interface” would be more clearly indicative. Applicant has so amended the title.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION

The Office Action rejected claim 1 “under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claim 1 of U.S. patent no. 5,802,398.” Office Action at ¶ 4. In light of the cancellation of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that such rejection is now moot.

35 U.S.C. 102 REJECTION

The Office Action rejected claim 1 “under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klashka et al., U.S. Patent 4,803,623 (hereinafter “the Klashka patent” or “Klashka”). In light of the cancellation of claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that such rejection is now moot.

NEW CLAIMS

Applicant has added new claims 34-74. Among the differences with the cited art, such claims include the following or similar limitation: "the controller circuit to transmit the data from the buffer to the storage medium simultaneously at least in part with the separate storage device transmitting and/or receiving data using the same IDE interface." Applicant respectfully submits that the cited art does not disclose or suggest such a limitation. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the allowance of claims 34-74.

THE TERM "IDE"

In an office action dated December 24, 1996 on a prior patent application, Serial No. 08/484,949, from which the current application is a continuation, in paragraph 3, the Examiner rejected claims 4, 8, 19 and 32 under 35. U.S.C. 112, second paragraph because such claims included the term "IDE." In particular, the Examiner indicated that the term "IDE" was a trademark/trade name. Moreover, the Examiner indicated that such term "is used to identify/describe an industry standard used to construct peripheral interfaces which is revised and/or changed from year to year in order to adapt to the current technology and, accordingly, the identification/description is indefinite."

Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion and respectfully submits that the term "IDE" is not a trademark or trade name and that such interface is a standard interface, known in the art, thereby making such term sufficiently definite. In support that the term "IDE" is a term known in the art and thereby making such a term sufficiently definite, Applicant respectfully submits that there are issued U.S. patents that include claims that have the term "IDE", which were examined by Examiner Butler. In particular, such issued U.S. patents include 6,067,618 to Weber and 5,446,877 to Liu et al. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the term "IDE" is sufficiently definite to meet the requirements under 35. U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the rejections have been overcome and the pending claims are allowable. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the remaining claims.

INVITATION FOR A TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

The Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned at (512) 306-7645 if there remains any issue with allowance of this case.

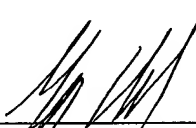
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Respectfully submitted,

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